

Lakeville, Ind.

It has been some time since I have given a report of the LaPaz church. The past year has been a happy and prosperous year for us. Altho we have done no great thing, thank God, we have done what we could. We paid our church debt, our new bell, our pastor's salary up to date, kept our S. S. and K. C. in working order, and have still been able now and then, to give our little mites to the mission work. Our pastor, W. W. Summers, is one of God's own chosen and consecrated servants. He has the love and respect of the outsiders as well as the people in the church. Our S. S. C. E., is doing its very best, working hard day after day. We find that true happiness on earth is only to be found in God's favor, and that favor is only to be found at the cross. Christ is to us the manifested God. Christ is the means by which the great fountain of God's love is made accessible to us, so that we can drink and live. To try to get up consecration out of Christ, by resolution and promises of our own, is like trying to build up a wall of sand, that runs down as fast as you can cast it up. We must give up our will to be governed by God's will. We must be of one mind with God. We must not measure ourselves and our doings by the world's standard, but by what the Lord has spoken. To be of a strong steady purpose to glorify God by doing the little things which are pleasing in his sight; such a Christian seeks to make the Lord Jesus his bright pattern and example in all things. To have the same tender love for souls which he had, the same forgiving spirit to enemies, the same willingness to help the suffering and oppressed, the same prayerfulness and love for communion with heaven. This was the great purpose for which Christ came into the world. "He died for all, that they who live should not henceforth live unto themselves." We are bought with a price, even with the blood of the Son of God. It is then absolutely dishonest to feel that anything we have is our own, and to be devoted to selfish purposes. I do not wish to avoid anything for the sake of my ease, or omit anything because it is a great self denial, or trust in self. If we have physical strength it should be used to his glory.

Our blessed Lord had a body like us, subject to the same infirmities, his powers liable to be tired, his heart liable to be distressed, and his feeling keen to feel reproach as we are. Yet it was in that body he went about continually doing good. Let our feet be employed on errands of mercy, and our hands in works of benevolence. Our eyes to seek out the needy and the perishing, and our ears to hear the cry of the distressed and drink in the promises of God. The fact remains that nothing is ours but our sins. The gifts that God has given to us, are only to be used in his service.

Our communion meeting will be on Friday evening, May 25. We cordially invite all who can to meet with us.

EMMA V. HOUSER.

Mulvane, Kan.

It has been about four years since I last sent in a report. I have been an invalid for about three years; had to give up all Christian work, could not go to church, not even read the blessed book of life. My health is much better at present. I am living in hopes of growing stronger physically and spiritually that I may be a whole soul worker for our Master.

The Sunday school is moving along nicely. We held our quarterly business meeting the 20th of March; had a very good meeting. We have regular preaching services every two weeks, morning and evening; good attendance usually. We held our last communion services at brother Louis Schaper's home, March 30; had a splendid meeting, twelve members present, several did not come on account of sickness in their homes. We were few in numbers but the Spirit was with us.

Brother L. G. Wood has been our pastor the past two years; he has agreed to stay with us again the coming year. We feel encouraged, and are thankful to him for staying. The members all seem to be encouraged and determined to start in new to help Brother Wood. The way to help him is for us to get ourselves right with God then the work will move on lively. Brother Wood is a noble man, born of God for his service.

May God's blessings rest upon him and us as a class that we may help him bring souls to our blessed Savior is my earnest prayer.

ESTELLA RENNICK.

Pittsylvania, Va.

At elder T. C. Wood's summons I went to Pittsylvania county on the 31, ult., and held six meetings. The congregations were fair and attention and interest specially devout. Our mission was to sow. Our evangelist, elder J. S. Bowman is the reaper in this part of the Lord's harvest. He will go there in August for a month's work. I will visit them again in June. This work was begun in June '98, and we number now thirty souls. Praise the Lord. The prospects there are glorious. A great awakening in behalf of the gospel alone doctrine is bestirring the people. They have been surfeited in the past years with some gospel and some tradition and spiritual dyspepsia prevails. Now the night is passing and morning dawns and joy cometh with the morning. Elder Wood is 78 years old yet he preaches every Sunday and travels many weary miles to break the life-giving bread to his people. Brethren, pray for Brother Wood and the cause in Pittsylvania

D. C. MOOMAW.

Nevada, Mo.

After an absence of three months our evangelist, Brother Hixson again returned to us and altho many anxious inquiries had been made concerning his coming again, yet owing to the busy season but few came out to hear of God's care for his children. Of course we are the only members at this place but dear brethren and sisters who are surrounded by every church privilege, do we

ever let similar excuses keep us from the place of worship? If our lives are consecrated to him could we do so?

The Savior who went before said, yet a little while and I will return. Will our many weak excuses stand the test? Can we say with the poet:

"Speed, Oh, speed the time away
When a nation in a day
Shall in triumph shout and sing,
All glory to our heavenly King"

No doubt to many of us the cares of life are pressing hard, but which of us can add ever so little unless it be the will of the Master. "From out the wreckage of my building Lord, I pray thee save all thou didst help me do.

In our city "Magnetic Healing" still abounds yet death has not been conquered. Let us not be deceived but prove faithful a little while longer.

IDA MYERS.

A Missionary's Letter

(The following letter was sent to the office by Brother Cassell. It should inspire many to nobler Christian efforts.—Ed.)

Sec. of the M. B. of the B. C.: Hhere with find post office order for \$1.40 as per brick card.

I am only nine years old and paralyzed, can not get around very well, or I might have sold more.

Nine of these bricks sold, were to people that were not members of the Brethren church.

We live eleven miles from our church, have had no meetings since last August. You will please accept our wishes.

SILVIA F. HILL.

This card was handed to me by president of the S. S. C. E. at Bloomer, Miss Quindora Grubb.

Missionary Items

According to previous arrangements I spent Sunday, April 1, with our brethren of the Washington D. C. church, and preached for them as best I could both morning and evening. The aspect of affairs was of course quite different from previous occasions when I visited them, instead of a second story hall with from twenty to forty people to preach to, we were in our own church, (or perhaps I should say *your* church) with an interesting audience of from one hundred and fifty to two hundred people.

On Monday evening we held a communion service with a goodly number at the tables, and a full house. The spectators seemed to be deeply interested, and some of them deeply impressed, and I think I am safe in saying some were convicted. I expect to hear of results for God in the near future from that service.

The prospects in church affairs in Washington are decidedly encouraging. The present membership is made up of nearly all comparatively young people, interested in their work, and quite a number of outsiders are considering the truth as it is presented by our dear Brother Lyon. I am looking